UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22258
23 February 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAUDI ARABIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Security Council resolution 678 (1990) concerning the military operations and in implementation of the second paragraph of the aforementioned resolution, I have the pleasure to transmit to you, on behalf of my Government, an additional report on the military operations for the liberation of the State of Kuwait during the period from 3 February to 9 February 1991.

I would be grateful if you would kindly have this report circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir S. SHIHABI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Report on military operations to liberate Kuwait
(3-9 February 1991)

The overall objective of the Royal Saudi Forces has always been to implement the Security Council resolutions concerning the liberation of fraternal Kuwait. Military objectives during the third week of operations were to destroy the Iraqi command structure and neutralize their air defence system, military machine and capability, while avoiding civilian targets and also sparing known air defence artillery positions in civilian populated areas. Such sites are left untouched, even if this means difficulties for Saudi pilots. Operations took place as follows:

1. Military operations

Air

The Royal Saudi Air Force carried out 1,290 sorties against targets inside Iraqi and Kuwaiti territory.

Sea

Saudi Arabian forces took part in naval operations, the total number of naval sorties involving its vessels amounting to 90. They also exploded a number of mines, and naval aircraft carried out 180 sorties on patrol, reconnaissance and combat missions.

Land

The Saudi Arabian ground forces are carrying out armed reconnaissance operations inside Kuwait and engaging in skirmishes with Iraqi forward elements, involving the use of artillery and rocket-launchers.

2. Casualties

The Iraqi aggressors fired one Scud missile at the city of Riyadh on the morning of Friday, 24 Rajab A.H. 1411 (8 February A.D. 1991), as a result of which one person was injured.

3. Refugees and prisoners of war

The total number of Iraqi refugees fleeing as a result of their dissatisfaction with the war of aggression launched by the Iraqi régime has risen to 17 officers and 291 others. Prisoners of war number 52 officers and 655 others, all of whom are receiving full care and attention and being treated in accordance with the precepts of Islamic law and the third Geneva Convention of 1949. This treatment has been commended by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

team. It is also a major item of concern for the commander of the joint forces and the operational theatre, His Royal Highness General Prince Khalid Bin Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz, who has set up a committee to meet weekly under his chairmanship, with the participation of the regional representative of ICRC in the Arabian peninsula, to provide assurance that they are receiving proper care and attention.